

Christmas with their fathers, yet this story has made little news and has sparked little protest.

Where is the sense of outrage in our country? Where is the sense of compassion?

Today on this anniversary, and throughout the year, let us remember these families and pray and work for their immediate release.

TIME TO CALL AN END TO SANCHEZ INVESTIGATION

(Mr. GEJDENSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, simple equity would argue that we ought to end the Sanchez investigation and have Congress pay for the bills that we fostered upon the gentlewoman from California, hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees for a race she won by several hundred more votes than Speaker GINGRICH won his race by several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, if decency and honesty will not do it, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle should listen to their pollsters. The pollsters say they are driving Hispanic Americans out of the Republican party and away from Republican candidates in record numbers. Why? Because they see the oppression.

Mr. Speaker, we had charges on this floor during the debate of fraud and other criminal activities, all dismissed by local and State people in California. This woman has won this race. It is close to 14 months after the election. Decency would demand that we end this investigation, pay the legal bills, and stop the chicanery. Just because the gentlewoman is a woman Hispanic from California does not mean that my colleagues have the right to drag her through the mud for the entire two-year term. End this investigation.

THANKS TO COACH TOM OSBORNE OF THE NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, one of the great legends of college football retired this season. Dr. Tom Osborne has led the Nebraska Cornhuskers for the past 25 years, and everyone who has watched was saddened by his departure.

Tom Osborne is Cornhusker football. As a young man, I watched him on the sidelines. A man of honor and integrity, a true winner regardless of the outcome of the games.

I watched him coach through years of close games against Oklahoma, near misses for the National Championship, until finally in the past 5 years he has brought home three National Championship seasons, including this year.

More so than football, what Tom Osborne has provided our State of Nebraska and our Nation is a leader who has placed the character development of his young men ahead of their football skills. Tom Osborne never forgot the lessons he learned growing up in Hastings and St. Paul, Nebraska; lessons of faith, values, commitment, doing what you said you would do.

Mr. Speaker, we say to Coach Osborne: Coach, thanks for the memories. We are excited to see what is going to happen in the future. We know that even though you are retiring, you will continue to instill those lessons of faith, character, and development and doing what you said you would do into the young lives of Nebraskans and all America.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONGRES- SIONAL INTERN PROGRAM

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to welcome Members home to Washington as we begin the 1998 session and to once again invite those who live in the city to call me if they need help from local government.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Members who took high school volunteer interns in September when the schools were closed for repair work. Many Members heaped praise on the performance of those D.C. high school interns. They were thrilled by the opportunity to work in Members' offices. The distance between official Washington and hometown Washington disappeared.

We were so impressed by the benefits to all concerned that we have now established a permanent D.C. Congressional Intern program. Interns will compete and be screened and oriented before being assigned to Members. The best and the brightest will be recommended to do such tasks as answering phones, sorting mail, filing, and computer searches.

Almost 100 Members of the House and Senate have already signed up to take interns. I ask Members whether they would like to help a kid from D.C. and get extra help for their office as well.

The program will go from February 3 to May 25. Please call my office and get a free D.C. high school intern.

□ 1330

THE IRS

(Mr. METCALF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, the American people now know that the Internal Revenue Service has been breaking the law for over 10 years. Recently the IRS admitted the use of quotas. Charles Rossotti, the present IRS Commissioner, said, this demonstrates that the Agency has failed to strike the

proper balance. It shows the IRS has put too much emphasis on revenue and not enough emphasis on quality customer service and respect for taxpayers' rights.

Frankly, ever since the taxpayers' Bill of Rights 10 years ago, this out-of-control Agency has never struck a balance on anything. The only thing they have struck is fear and intimidation into the hearts of every taxpaying American. This Congress must roll back and curtail the power of the Internal Revenue disservice. We must force this Agency to respect the constitutional rights of the American citizens.

CALL FOR AN END TO INVESTIGATION OF VOTER FRAUD

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the grand jury in Orange County, with all of the available facts and documents and information at their disposal, did not find probable cause to issue even a single criminal indictment concerning voter fraud in LORETTA SANCHEZ's victory. The Republican California Secretary of state, who well over a year ago certified LORETTA SANCHEZ the winner after a painstaking recount, concluded in December that no new evidence warranted changing that result.

In fact, listen to what Secretary Jones had to say about the so-called evidence the Republicans sent to him, and I quote, "We don't know if they are illegal or not because we don't know the status of the individuals on the list or how the list was put together. I can't vouch for the list."

Let me repeat that, "I can't vouch for the list."

Mr. Speaker, that is what we Democrats have been saying all along. This so-called evidence is useless and worthless and nothing more than an attack on Hispanic voters in the Nation. It is time to end this investigation and the enormous amount of taxpayer dollars spent.

UNFAIRNESS IN THE TAX CODE: THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today I want to raise the issue of the marriage tax penalty. Let me just frame this issue by asking some very simple questions. Do Americans feel that it is fair that a married working couple with two incomes pays higher taxes than a similar couple living together outside a marriage? Do Americans feel that it is fair that the average married working couple, two incomes, pays \$1,400 more in higher taxes? Do Americans feel that it is fair that our Tax Code actually provides an incentive to get divorced? In fact, the only way a married